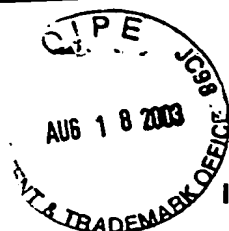


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: M. Tsuruki, et al.

Serial No.: 09/787,720 ✓

Filed: March 22, 2001

For: VERTICAL FURNACE AND WAFER BOAT FOR VERTICAL FURNACE

Group: 1763

Examiner: TBD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR 1.97 & 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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August 18, 2003

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Sir:

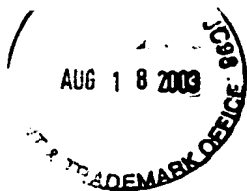
Pursuant to Applicants' duty of disclosure, enclosed please find a Search Report/Office Action issued on May 27, 2003, in connection with a corresponding foreign application, and copies of the references cited therein. Also enclosed is a Form, substantially equivalent to Form PTO-1449, listing the enclosed documents.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted prior to a first Office Action on the merits in the above-identified application. Accordingly, requirements of 37 CFR § 1.97(b) are satisfied.

In any event, the following Statement is made under 37 CFR § 1.97(e):

Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

While the documents cited in the enclosed Search Report/Office Action are not in English, requirements of 37 CFR § 1.98(a)(3) are satisfied by the English



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Abstract/Abridged translation of the respective documents.

In view of all of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all applicable requirements of 37 CFR § 1.97 and § 1.98 have been satisfied, in connection with present submission of the enclosed documents. Accordingly, consideration of the submitted documents, upon examination of the above-identified application, is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (referencing docket no. 500.39863X00), and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

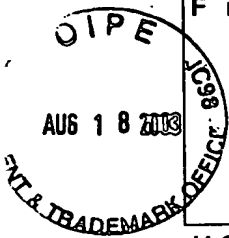
Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "William I. Solomon", written over a horizontal line.

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Form PTO-1449	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY. DKT. NO. 500.39863X00	SERIAL NO. 09/787,720
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)		APPLICANT M. Tsuruki, et al.	
		FILING DATE March 22, 2001	GROUP 1763

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date
AA						
AB						
AC						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation/Abstracts	
						Yes	No
AD	1997-30297	6/26/97	Korea			X	
AE	61-214421	9/24/86	Japan			X	
AF							
AG							
AG							

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

AH	
AI	
Examiner	Date Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard St.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC

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